



State Historic Preservation Office

Montana Historical Society

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January 22, 1991

James C. Harris
Remedial Project Manager
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region VIII, Montana Office
301 S. Park, Drawer 10096
Helena, MT 59626

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
AGENCY

JAN 23 1991

MONTANA OFFICE

Re: Review of mitigation package
Somers Tie Plant

Dear Jim:

Thank you for an early opportunity to review the package of materials BN has prepared as mitigation for loss of key features of the historic Somers tie treatment plant. Much of the package is quite good, including the oral interviews, HRA's supplemental report and the 4x5 photos of the retort building and other extant features. Additional 4x5 photos taken of original drawings and blue lines appear to be a mixed bag, with some quite good and some very difficult to see. Their inclusion, however, is a vital part of the package.

We were disappointed with the drawings, but believe they will suffice if the information they were anticipated to contain can be preserved in another format. What we are thinking about is donation and curation of selected original drawings and blue lines. The Montana Historical Society is now in a position to accept at least the first category of data. We will have to explore the possibilities for the second, assuming some of the critical drawings are not original. Of course, if it is not possible to curate critical drawings we will need to jointly determine another course of action, perhaps asking that 4x5 photos be retaken.

Please let me know when you once more have the set of drawings in Helena, and I will set up a meeting with our archivist to review them.

Thanks again for all your help, and the care you have taken with this project.

Sincerely,

Katherine M. Huppe
Historical Survey Reviewer

File: Comp/EPA/Somers Tie Plant
CD/Somers Tie Plant



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